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R. Stokes

15525 U.S. PTO
09/535836
03/28/00

Attorney Docket No. SEL 173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
Hisashi OHTANI et al) "Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EL411704338
Serial No.: Not Assigned) Date of Deposit March 28, 2000
Filed: Herewith) I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being
Examiner:) deposited with the United States Postal Service
Art Unit:) "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND THE) under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above
FABRICATING METHOD THEREOF) and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner
for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
Name Nathan Wolcott
(typed or printed)
Signature Nathan Wolcott

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

The family of JP 07-130652 cited herein includes:

U.S. Patent No. 5,643,826
U.S. Patent No. 5,923,962
European Patent No. 0 651 431

The family of JP 07-135318 cited herein includes:

U.S. Patent No. 5,648,277

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

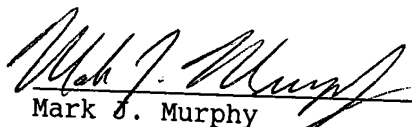
The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not

possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

A first office action, notice of allowance or issue fee notification has not been received in this case, so Applicant does not believe that a fee is due. However, if any such fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,


Mark J. Murphy
Registration No. 34,225

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